

YOUR PARISH CAN SUPPORT IOCC

1. Make IOCC a line item on your church budget. Go to www.iocc.org/aboutiocc
2. Invite an IOCC speaker to your Church. Contact Dan Christopulos at 1-877-803-IOCC (4622) or dchristopulos@iocc.org.
3. Sign up for IOCC's Email Alerts. Go to www.iocc.org/updates.

EMERGENCY KITS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED



Please encourage your parish youth group to help families in need by assembling IOCC Emergency Kits. Instructions and details are available online at www.iocc.org/kits.

Health Kits & Baby Kits are desperately needed.

IOCC Upcoming Events

More details at www.iocc.org/events.

- CHICAGO, IL – 5/14/09
15th Annual Banquet
Rosewood Restaurant and Banquets
- BALTIMORE, MD – 5/30/09
Walkathon – Lake Elkhorn
- SAN FRANCISCO, CA – 6/25-28/09
Pinot Days – Fort Mason Center
- BALTIMORE, MD – 7/30/09
Concert – Location TBD
- DENVER, CO – 8/8/09
5K Bike/Walk
St. Catherine Greek Orthodox Church
- WASHINGTON, DC – 8/22/09
Wine Tasting
St. Mark Orthodox Church
- CLEVELAND, OH – 9/4/09
Baseball game
Cleveland Indians vs. Minnesota
- PHOENIX, AZ – 9/27/09
Wine, Cheese, Silent Auction
Location TBD

Help us spread the word about IOCC – join our online communities:



“Chastise your soul with the thought of death, and through remembrance of Jesus Christ concentrate your scattered intellect.” — St. Philotheus of Sinai



INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES
110 West Road
Suite 360
Baltimore, Maryland 21204 • USA

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Baltimore, MD
Permit No. 4280



INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

PRIEST to PRIEST

VOLUME 10, NO. 2 SUMMER 2009

*“All the believers were together and had everything in common ...
And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.” – Acts 2:44, 47*

Dear Brothers in Christ,

In a small village in Uganda, there is an Orthodox school for orphans where the children have to sleep four to a bed. Most of the children lost their parents to AIDS, the legacy of a country still plagued by the disease. Today, IOCC provides St. Mary's School with classroom equipment and with ways to financially support itself by keeping livestock and grinding corn meal. Your support, and that of your flock, gives these children a real chance at a future and builds the capacity of the Orthodox Church of Uganda to more effectively meet the needs of its community.

As we prepare to celebrate the Feast of Pentecost where the Holy Spirit empowered the Apostles to preach the Gospel and establish the Church, we recognize that the same Holy Spirit empowers us today to change people's lives.

As representatives of the Apostles on this Great and Holy feast, allow the Holy Spirit to “add to your number daily” those who are receiving this tangible form of love and grace. In this issue of *Priest to Priest* you'll read

about how your support is healing Zimbabweans of the scourge of cholera, combating wildfires in the Peloponnese, Greece, and educating impoverished school children in Lebanon.

Through the support of the faithful of North America, we are also doing important humanitarian work right here in the U.S.



His Eminence Metropolitan Jonah of Uganda with IOCC CEO Constantine Triantafilou in Katente where IOCC is providing classroom equipment to a school for orphans. (Below) The Luisa Guidotti Clinic in Mutoko, Zimbabwe has received several shipments of medicines and medical supplies from IOCC.

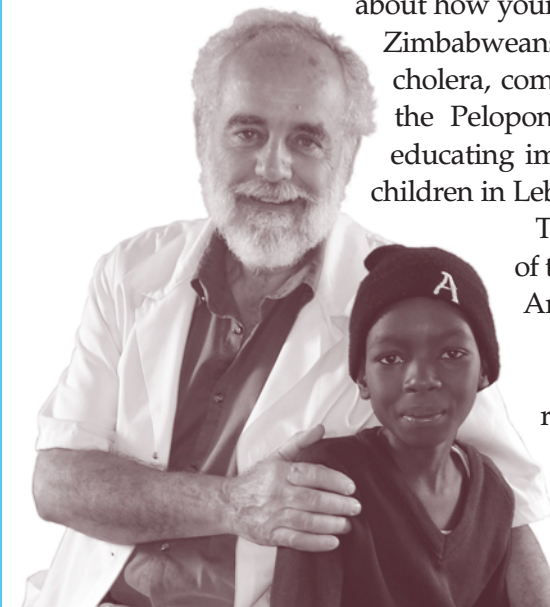
Please prayerfully consider leading a team to the embattled Gulf Coast where you can help build homes or encourage your youth and young adults to work together for a week of service in Louisiana. *More details are inside this issue.*

On this holy and blessed Pentecost, I pray that we “can be together and have all things in common,” and that Christ would truly find us worthy of a new descent of His all holy, good and life-creating Spirit.

Your Brother in Christ,

Fr. Nicholas C. Triantafilou
Fr. Nicholas C. Triantafilou

FATHERS: PLEASE POST THE INSIDE POSTER IN YOUR CHURCH HALL



A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FOR ORTHODOX CLERGY

*from the priests of the Church Relations Committee of the IOCC Board of Directors:
Very Rev. Michael Ellias, Rev. Luke Palumbis, Rev. Nicholas Triantafilou*



Help Others Help Themselves



A Healing Hand To Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe's complete breakdown of water and sanitation systems has claimed more than 3,300 lives to cholera. Many doctors and nurses have stopped going to work since salaries have been rendered useless by the country's hyperinflation. IOCC's shipment of cholera medical kits is currently benefitting about 5,600 patients, including those being treated by an Orthodox Church clinic in Harare. *Hospitals are woefully under-equipped. Your contribution to IOCC speeds more shipments of medicines and hospital supplies to Zimbabwe.* Since 2004, IOCC has been serving the health needs of Africans through their national Orthodox churches with \$16.2 million invested in HIV/AIDS prevention programs and medical supplies.



Orthodox Volunteers Make A Difference

Now in its third year, IOCC's "Volunteer in the Gulf Coast" program is mobilizing 200 volunteers to construct new homes for communities that are still rebuilding after Hurricane Katrina. Last year, over 200 IOCC volunteers representing 55 Orthodox parishes from throughout the U.S. put in over 8,000 volunteer hours. Their sweat equity, valued at \$160,000, helped complete 50 new homes in Louisiana. *Help Build Homes on the Gulf Coast: Join the growing network of IOCC volunteers to help families rebuild their lives by building new homes. You do not need to be a skilled carpenter – just energetic!* We are recruiting volunteers for one week or longer of service in the Gulf Coast. For more information and to check out the application, go to: www.iocc.org/gulfcoast.



Lebanese Youth Learn Tolerance

If you attend a public school in Lebanon, your institution probably lacks computers, new textbooks, sanitary bathrooms and after-school programs that enrich your education. Since 2000, IOCC has invested millions of dollars to improve Lebanese public schools and feed children who come from low-income families. *Help open school doors for students ready to learn and grow in Lebanon.* Last summer, IOCC hosted 14 summer camps throughout Lebanon, promoting a culture of tolerance between youth and encouraging them to take an active role in improving their communities. More than 400 teenagers participated in community service projects and lectures on good citizenship.



Trauma of War Lingers for Georgians

Some 25,000 Georgians will not be able to return to their homes in South Ossetia following last summer's war. Whether they are adjusting to life in new settlements or continuing to live in temporary shelters, these families face enormous difficulties. *Help us speed relief to families who need food, medicine, shelter, and hope that a life interrupted by war can still have a bright future.* IOCC has been providing continuous assistance to thousands of displaced families throughout Georgia since the conflict began in August 2008 by providing stoves, fuel for cooking, bedding and winter clothes. The Georgian Orthodox Church, IOCC's long time partner in Georgia, helped identify needy families.

IOCC, in the spirit of Christ's love, offers emergency relief and development programs to those in need worldwide, without discrimination, and strengthens the capacity of the Orthodox Church to so respond.

INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

HEADQUARTERS: 110 WEST ROAD, SUITE 360 • BALTIMORE, MD 21204 USA

Tel: (410) 243-9820 • Toll Free: 1-877-803-IOCC (4622) • E-mail: relief@iocc.org • Online: www.iocc.org